

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a gasket for preventing high-temperature fluid of an internal combustion engine from leaking, the gasket being configured for positioning ~~located~~ between an adjacent pair of components of the engine, wherein the method of manufacturing the gasket comprising ~~comprises the steps of:~~

providing a gasket plate made of an electrically insulating material, the gasket plate having a hole; and

covering at least part of the gasket plate that defines the hole with an annular sealing member made of a material having a higher heat resistance than the gasket plate, ~~wherein the annular sealing member covers part of the gasket plate that defines the hole,~~

wherein the annular sealing member includes:

a pair of holding portions that hold the gasket plate in between; and

a coupler portion that couples the holding portions to each other in the hole[[],];

and

~~the gasket further comprising:~~

forming a deformation restricting portion that restricts deformation of the annular sealing member along the thickness of the gasket plate[[],] by bending part of one of the holding portions toward the other holding portion.

2. (currently amended) The method gasket according to claim 1, wherein the high-temperature fluid is combustion gas generated as the engine operates.

3. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 1, wherein the pair of the components are a cylinder block and a cylinder head, the cylinder block having a cylinder bore, and wherein the hole is formed to correspond to the cylinder bore.

4. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 1, wherein the electrically insulating material is a synthetic resin.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 1, wherein the annular sealing member is formed by bending a plate member.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 1, wherein the deformation restricting portion extends along the thickness of the gasket plate between the holding portions.

9. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 8, wherein the deformation restricting portion has a length that is substantially equal to the thickness of the gasket plate.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The method ~~gasket~~ according to claim 1, wherein the internal combustion engine has a cylinder, and the gasket plate is formed of a single plate member, the gasket further comprising:

a sensor for detecting a state in the cylinder, the gasket plate having a guide hole, wherein a lead extending from the sensor passes through the guide hole.

12. (currently amended) The method gasket according to claim 1, wherein the high heat resistance material is a stainless steel.

13. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the deformation restricting portion is formed by perpendicularly bending part of one of the holding portions toward the other holding portion.

14. (new) A gasket for preventing high-temperature fluid of an internal combustion engine from leaking, the gasket being located between an adjacent pair of components of the engine, wherein the gasket comprising:

a gasket plate made of an electrically insulating material, the gasket plate having a hole,  
and

an annular sealing member made of a material having a higher heat resistance than the gasket plate, wherein the annular sealing member covers part of the gasket plate that defines the hole,

wherein the annular sealing member includes:

a pair of holding portions that hold the gasket plate in between; and

a coupler portion that couples the holding portions to each other in the hole,

the gasket further comprising:

a deformation restricting portion that restricts deformation of the annular sealing member along the thickness of the gasket plate, wherein the deformation restricting portion is formed by bending part of one of the holding portions toward the other holding portion.

15. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the high-temperature fluid is combustion gas generated as the engine operates.

16. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the pair of the components are a cylinder block and a cylinder head, the cylinder block having a cylinder bore, and wherein the hole is formed to correspond to the cylinder bore.

17. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the electrically insulating material is a synthetic resin.

18. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the annular sealing member is formed by bending a plate member.

19. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the deformation restricting portion extends along the thickness of the gasket plate between the holding portions.

20. (new) The gasket according to claim 19, wherein the deformation restricting portion has a length that is substantially equal to the thickness of the gasket plate.

21. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the internal combustion engine has a cylinder, and the gasket plate is formed of a single plate member, the gasket further comprising:

a sensor for detecting a state in the cylinder, the gasket plate having a guide hole, wherein a lead extending from the sensor passes through the guide hole.

22. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the high heat resistance material is a stainless steel.

23. (new) The gasket according to claim 14, wherein the deformation restricting portion is formed by perpendicularly bending part of one of the holding portions toward the other holding portion.